

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 119

Introduced by Assembly Members Galgiani and Valadao

(Principal coauthors: Senators Cannella and Rubio)

**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bill Berryhill, Hill, Ma, Mendoza,
Olsen, Perea, and Yamada)**

(Coauthor: Senator Berryhill)

February 29, 2012

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 119—Relative to California
Agriculture Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 119, as introduced, Galgiani. California Agriculture Day.

This measure would recognize the week of March 4, 2012, to March 10, 2012, inclusive, as National Agriculture Week, and would designate March 21, 2012, as California Agriculture Day.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, March 21, 2012, is designated as California
- 2 Agriculture Day, a day of celebration to commemorate agriculture’s
- 3 importance in our daily lives, its vital role in keeping Californians
- 4 nourished and its role in keeping the state’s economy ranked as
- 5 the eighth largest in the world; and
- 6 WHEREAS, The 2012 theme of California Agriculture Day is
- 7 “Know Your California Farmer” to encourage Californians to
- 8 know and celebrate farmers who grow the food we enjoy and share
- 9 with others; and
- 10 WHEREAS, For more than 60 consecutive years, California
- 11 has been the number one agricultural state in the nation, producing

1 more than 400 crop and livestock products and accounting for
2 approximately 50 percent of the nation's supply of fruits,
3 vegetables, and nuts; and

4 WHEREAS, The inexhaustible efforts of millions of
5 farmworkers have contributed greatly to the success of the
6 agricultural industry; and

7 WHEREAS, California's agricultural community relies on a
8 vital infrastructure that aids in the exclusion and early detection
9 of plant and animal pests and diseases that impact public health,
10 the environment, and commerce; and

11 WHEREAS, With less than 1 percent of California's population
12 engaging in farming and agriculture, each agricultural worker
13 today provides for more than 100 other people, compared to just
14 13 in 1947; and

15 WHEREAS, Today's agricultural industry offers over 300
16 challenging and rewarding career opportunities, from on-farm
17 cultivation to food science and engineering; and

18 WHEREAS, Over the past five decades, advances in agricultural
19 production have resulted in a drop in consumer spending on food
20 products from 21 percent of disposable income in 1949 to
21 approximately 9 percent today; and

22 WHEREAS, California is the nation's leader in agricultural
23 exports, shipping more than \$14 billion worth of food and
24 agricultural commodities around the world; and

25 WHEREAS, California's agricultural industry constantly seeks
26 to incorporate the latest scientific and technological production
27 and marketing techniques to meet the demands of changing
28 consumer needs and complex world markets; and

29 WHEREAS, Government-industry partnerships are continually
30 being developed to improve quality and ensure safe handling
31 practices on the farm, in transit, and during processing; and

32 WHEREAS, "California Grown" is a public-private partnership
33 campaign that emphasizes our strong ties to the land, our neighbors,
34 and our desire to restore pride in our homegrown products and our
35 quality of work; and

36 WHEREAS, A broad approach to agricultural education is vital
37 to ensure that California agriculture continues to flourish; and

38 WHEREAS, The California "5 A Day For Better Health"
39 campaign, launched in 1988, was the precursor for the national "5
40 A Day" program, which spreads the message that healthy eating

1 through the consumption of fruits and vegetables can reduce the
2 risk of heart disease and cancer by as much as 30 percent; and

3 WHEREAS, It is appropriate for all Californians to recognize
4 our farmers, farmworkers, and others involved in providing such
5 a bounty to our nation and the entire world; now, therefore, be it

6 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
7 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature recognizes and honors
8 the men and women of California agriculture for their dedication
9 and productivity by observing the week of March 4, 2012, to March
10 10, 2012, inclusive, as National Agriculture Week, and designating
11 Wednesday, March 21, 2012, as California Agriculture Day; and
12 be it further

13 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
14 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.